John Armstrong

Maggie Miller and the Park Scholarship

Maggie Miller, a senior, is one of the 102 finalists of the NC State’s Park Scholarship for her outstanding accomplishments in scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

The Park Scholarship is named after Roy H. Park, an NC State alumnus, who created the charitable Park Foundation which is dedicated to education, media, and the environment. It was set up to award young men and women who display exceptional talents and are well prepared for college.

The Park Scholarship is offered to any student nationwide and so many are eligible. Miller said “I’m the only finalist from Charlotte Catholic!”

The Park Scholarship has a three step selection process. These steps include: reviewing of the application, interviewing of the semifinalists, selecting the finalists. The first two steps are done regionally, and two-thirds of the awards go to NC residents. The remainders of the award are given to those outside North Carolina.

The committee, composed mostly of Park Scholars, selects 102 finalists. When selected as a finalist, you automatically get a $10,000 scholarship. Miller says “I go for my interviews on the 17 and 18 of February and find out on the 25.”

Recipients receive a full ride to NC State including room board, food, and a personal computer. The scholars are instructed by professors, who provide them with opportunities for professional development and assist them in planning interactive class retreats and trips. The scholars develop their skills in a first-year leadership seminar, and during their four years, they assume challenging roles in campus community organizations. They engage in service activities each semester, whether by volunteering at a local agency or by planning an original project to address needs of the society.

Miller hopes to accomplish much if awarded the scholarship.